

Technical Cybersecurity

The Beginnings

How it all started

HACKER MEANT WORK, COMPETENCE

- ▶ Began in academia, early 1960's
- ▶ Clever programmers, making systems do unusual things
- ▶ MIT, Berkeley, CMU
- ▶ Pranks, grade changing, door locks, etc.

BEGAN TO SPLIT INTO GROUPS

- ▶ Phreaking, then “crackers”, warez, etc.

Phreaking

ANALOG TELEPHONES

- ▶ Used tones to route calls, multiplexed on voice line
- ▶ Blue boxes emulated these tones
- ▶ ...free phone calls!

STOPPED IN THE 80's

- ▶ New telecom designs separated channels
- ▶ Digital systems
- ▶ Fallen out of favor, telecom systems are just computers now

Counterculture, competence

CLOSELY TIED TO COUNTERCULTURE

- ▶ Late 60's and 70's
- ▶ Anticorporate
- ▶ Criminal, but very low impact, not visible
- ▶ Fringe, mostly ignored by law enforcement

DIGITAL SYSTEMS NOT WIDESPREAD

- ▶ Financial, infrastructure, etc. starting to computerize
- ▶ Not connected, not accessible

What about malware?